

Yongin, Baran LSAs offer Soldiers, Marines a touch of 'home away from home' -- as seen through a bubble



Marine Lt. Col. Sean Wester, 3rd MEF Headquarters Group and LSA commander, gives David W. Frodsham, USAG Humphreys deputy garrison commander, a tour of Baran LSA with Staff Sgt. Robert Swanson.



PHOTOS BY ANDRE D. BUTLER USAG HUMPHREYS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

(right) Marine Master Sgt. Earl Watie and fellow Marines (clockwise) Staff Sgt. Robert L. Bingaman, II, Sgt. Darius, the dominologist, Smith and Pfc. Matt Sova play a game of dominos at Baran LSA.



Spc. Meagan Dryden, I Corps civil affairs specialist, smiles as she speaks to her mother in Oregon from Yongin's MWR tent.



Marine Cpl. Kyung Chun, 3rd Logistics Group supply administrative specialist, shops at the Baran AFFESS Mobile Shoppette.



Marines pay a visit to the Baron laundry tent.

"We don't lower our standards when servicing our [Warfighters] because of the conditions. It is our job to ensure they have the best service at all times. We are family."

—Col. John E. Dumoulin, Jr.,
USAG Humphreys Garrison
Commander



Marine Staff Sgt. Samuel Morgan, 3rd MEF systems chief, continues his fitness routine.



(left) Marine Lance Cpl. Timothy Havlock, Marine Air Support Group, Sgt. Eddie Grant, 9th Engineer Support Battalion and Cpl. Dana Margulies, 3rd MEF Band, conduct daily operations during Ulchi Focus Lens 2007 at Baran Life Support Area.



U.S. Army Soldiers, KATUSA Soldiers and U.S. Airmen take a lunch break in the mess tent located at Yongin Life Support Area during the exercise.

UFL '07 Soldier spotlight: Sgt. Seung Lee

By Andre D. Butler

USAG Humphreys Public Affairs

From Korea to New York, Sgt. Seung Lee, a U.S. Army Reserve rear operations center sergeant for the 2nd Infantry Division, is a Korean American born in Korea whose life adventures come full circle in the Land of the Morning Calm.

Camp Humphreys – Age 28

Hometown: New York City

Job: Public Affairs

Local Residence: Seoul

College/Major: Cornell University/Policy Analysis and Management — 1 semester, Ewha Woman's University, Seoul.

Q: First off, how did you as a man get the chance to study at a university for women?

A: "Ewha University is the only university in Korea that my college had a partnership with for the study abroad program. So my senior year of college, I was given the chance to participate in that program. It was a unique opportunity so I decided to take it."

Q: Where were you born and raised?

A: "I was born in Korea but at an early age, approximately one, my family moved to America, and I've been living in America pretty much all of my life in the city of New York. My father worked for the Korean Consulate."

Q: Do you speak Korean Native?

A: "At the time I lived in New York my family only spoke the language in our home, but it was very basic. I knew simple phrases but wasn't proficient in the language. That's one of the reasons I decided to come here, so that I could learn more of the



Korean culture. I came here five years ago and decided to study the language. And now communicating is not as much of a problem for me."

Q: What about other cultural areas?

A: "My parents are first generation Koreans, and they would still do traditional things in our home in America. So the environment I grew up in was very culturally based. At first, I didn't understand a lot of it, but that's how things were."

Q: How was it growing up in New York as a Korean American?

A: "I went to public school as a child, but I attended a private university. I lucked out because some of my friends who are also Korean American had problems meshing or blending in well with others. But for me, even though I'm ethnically Korean, most people could tell that I was American by my mannerisms or by some of the things I did or said. So people accepted me for who I am. I had a lot of

fun. It was only after I got to Korea that I felt like a foreigner."

Q: Explain that a little?

A: "The more interesting angle is that when you come here you look Korean but you're not really Korean. Yes, I look Korean, but it's only when I speak that they can tell I'm not from here. I speak Korean now -- but I am not fluent at it, so I may mispronounce something, and that's when they realize I actually grew in America. But over the years I have gotten better with the language."

Q: What are other differences you face here in Korea?

A: "In the beginning it's a cultural shock -- especially in Seoul. Everything takes getting use to -- it's a major city just like New York. It just take time to adapt."

Q: Why did you choose to live here?

A: "After graduating college I wanted to learn more about my family's culture. I have family here and we get together on holidays, which is really nice. When I was a child, we visited Korea once or twice -- but that was it. So now I get the chance to be around them more. I want to know as much as I can about both sides of me -- Korean and American. And this gives me the opportunity to do that."

Q: Five years, where do you want to be?

A: "I see myself working in diplomacy."

Q: Ten years?

A: "Same thing, I want to make it a career."

Q: What about a wife and kids?

A: "Brake-Brake, I am putting together an op-order now."

Soldiers enjoy time at Yongin Life Support Area

By Andre D. Butler

USAG Humphreys Public Affairs

Yongin Life Support Area provides Soldiers participating in Ulchi Focus Lens 07 with many of the comforts of home while they are deployed to Korea.

The LSA is one of three set up in Area III to support this year's exercise which kick off Aug. 19. Those living at the LSA say they could ask for no more during this field exercise. "Its facilities are great," said 1st Lt. Joe Gatti, 42nd Military Police Company provost marshal operation's officer.

"The area is clean, which is nice, and the food is good," he said. Gatti is stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash., and he said the officials in charge of the LSA provide field trips and tours for Soldiers staying there.

Yongin has everything from a movie theater to video games set up in the MWR tent. There is also

a medical tent with sick-call hours for those in need. "We are well prepared out here," said Staff Sgt. Jackie Samuel, 168th Medical Battalion NCOIC of operations at Yongin. "And the comforts that the LSA has makes being out here that much better," he said.

"They provide great services for the Soldiers."

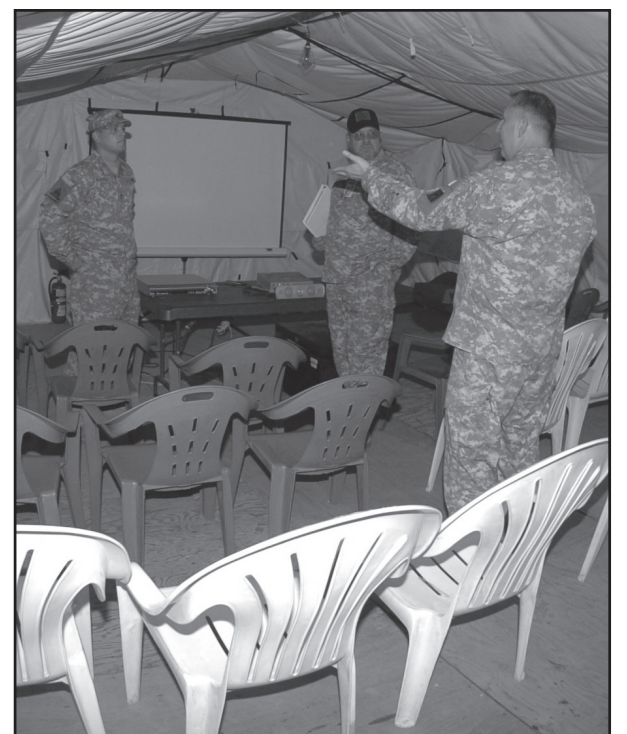
"I am enjoying myself," said Pfc. Andrea Kim, a medical specialist at the LSA.

"There is nothing more that we need. This place has the best bathrooms that I have ever seen in a field exercise," she said.

"They are always clean."

The LSA offers Soldiers a way of calling home too — back to the states.

Computers are set up with internet access, and warfighters can use them whenever they want. "I'm very happy," said Spc. Aaron Walls, a security specialist for I Corps. "This is one of the best tent cities I've been to in years."



ANDRE D. BUTLER

Mark Cox, from USAG Humphreys DPTMS, briefs David W. Frodsham, USAG Humphreys deputy commander, in the movie tent as Sgt. 1st Class Travis Martell looks on.